IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 25 – 28, 31, 32 and 35 as follows:

1 - 24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support comprises a plurality of coupled flexible zigzag formed annular elements formed by straight bars of equal length and connected by arch portions therebetween, the zigzag annular elements being ordered vertically along a longitudinal axis, the zigzag formed annular elements define a proximal end and a distal end of the intraluminal vascular support,

Wherein in a non-expanded state each zigzag annular element is coupled to at least one other annular element through at least one opposing pair of bending elements, each of the bending elements being formed from a bow shaped connector bar connected between arch portions of adjacent zigzag annular elements, wherein portions of said adjacent zigzag annular elements and said bow shaped bars connected therebetween are arranged to form corresponding star shaped segments.

26. (Previously Presented) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 25, wherein the width of the bow shaped connector bars is 10 to 50% smaller than the width of a straight formed connector bar of the zigzag formed annular elements.

27. (Currently Amended) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 25, wherein at least one zigzag formed annular element is coupled to at least one other annular element through one pair of bending elements ~~which~~ that consists of ~~either of a pair of bars which are bow shaped or of~~ a pair of S-shaped bars.

28. (Currently Amended) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim [[27]] 25, wherein [[the]] at least one zigzag formed annular element is coupled to at least one other annular element through one pair of bending elements that consists of a pair of bow shaped bars curved in opposing directions and located on opposite sides of [[the]] a circumference of the vascular support.

29. (Previously Presented) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 26, wherein the width and/or the cross-section of the bow shaped connector bars, is

greater on the proximal and distal ends of the intraluminal vascular support than in the middle section of the support.

30. (Previously Presented) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 28, wherein the width and/or the cross-section of the bow shaped connector bars is greater on the proximal and distal ends of the intraluminal vascular support than in the middle section of the support.

31. (Previously Presented) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 29, wherein the width and/or the cross-section of the bending elements, or the number of the bow shaped connector bars in the middle section is greater than that on the proximal and distal ends, which gives the middle section of the intraluminal vascular support a greater radial strength than the proximal and distal ends.

32. (Previously Presented) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 30, wherein the width and/or the cross-section of the bending elements, or the number of the bow shaped connector bars in the middle section is greater than that on the proximal and distal ends, which gives the middle section of the intraluminal vascular support a greater radial strength than the proximal and distal ends.

33. (Previously Presented) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 25, wherein said at least one bending element, constructed from the bow shaped connector bars are ordered between the laterally following zigzag annular elements in a sloping, sequential spiral pattern so that the bow shaped connector bars give rise to a double helix structure over the length of the intraluminal vascular support.

34. (Previously Presented) A radially expandable intraluminal support of claim 25, wherein the bending elements, constructed from the bow shaped connector bars are ordered between the laterally following zigzag annular elements such that each is turned approximately 90° with respect to the longitudinal axis of the intraluminal vascular support.

35. (Currently Amended) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 25, wherein in [[the]] a middle section of each circumferentially placed bow shaped connector, the bow shaped connector bars are ordered in a sloping, sequential pattern, and that on both ends of a single bending element, which is constructed from two opposing H-shaped connector bars that are turned 90°, is placed between the middle section and the laterally following zigzag annular elements or the laterally followed spiral formed annular elements.

36. (Previously Presented) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 25 is constructed from one or more of the metals of the group nickel, steel, titanium, tantalum, niobium, platinum, iron or tungsten, or an alloy of at least two of these metals.

37. (Previously Presented) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 36 is constructed from alloy of nickel-titanium so that the support is self-expanding after heat treatment.

38. (Previously Presented) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 25 is constructed from a resorbable synthetic material.

39. (Previously Presented) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 25 is coated or covered with a thin walled foil of a biocompatible material.

40. (Previously Presented) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 25 is coated with medication so as to hinder the hyper proliferation of the vascular wall.

41. (Previously Presented) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 40, wherein the medication coating is so constructed that the medication is slowly released in order to hinder the hyper proliferation of the vascular wall.

42. (Previously Presented) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 39, wherein the coating or cover releases radiation either through radioactive decay or irradiation.

43. (Previously Presented) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 40, wherein the coating or cover releases radiation either through radioactive decay or irradiation.

44. (Previously Presented) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 39, wherein the biocompatible material is a biocompatible fabric constructed from one or more polyurethane, silicone, Teflon, or polyester.

45. (Previously Presented) A radially expandable intraluminal vascular support of claim 26, wherein the width of the bow shaped connector bars is 30% smaller than the width of a strait formed connector bar of the zigzag formed annular elements.